



School Office Friday Update

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEKS AHEAD	
Monday 13 th October	• Individual pupil photographs. If you wish to have sibling photographs with children who do not attend our school, please arrive from 8am.
Tuesday 14 th October	• Churchtown Tots- 9.30am-10.30am. All welcome. • Class 3 skateboarding event- further details and consent available on Arbor.
Wednesday 15 th October	• Class 2 swimming • Class 1 invasion games at ASJ- further details and consent available on Arbor.
Thursday 16 th October	• PTA disco
Friday 17 th October	• Celebration assembly. You will receive a message if your child has been chosen to receive an award this week.
Monday 20 th October	• Football league match- Kick off 4pm at Churchtown. You will have received a message if your child has been chosen to play.
Tuesday 21 st October	• Churchtown tots- 9.30am-10.30am. All welcome. • Parents evening- appointments live for you to book on Arbor from 9am on 10th October. • Derby Cathedral trip- You will have received a message if your child has been chosen to attend.
Wednesday 22 nd October	• No swimming • Parents evening- appointments live for you to book on Arbor from 9am on 10th October.
Thursday 23 rd October	• Open the book assembly
Friday 24 th October	• Celebration assembly. You will receive a message if your child has been chosen to receive an award this week.

	• Autumn Open Morning- 9.30am onwards. An opportunity to tour the school and meet the staff, aimed at September 2026 intake but all welcome. • Last day of term.
--	---

Other news:

- Parents evenings are now available to book on Arbor.

- A reminder that dogs are not allowed on the school playground. Please stand on the pavement side of the fence where school staff can still see you if you have your dog with you to collect your children.
- Flu vaccinations will take place on Tuesday 11th November. Please visit the following link to accept or decline for your child. <https://nhsimms.azurewebsites.net/session/123d089e>
- If you need to apply for a medical diet for your child for this school year, please use the following link- <https://www.schoolmeals.derbyshire.gov.uk/allergies-and-special-diets/allergies-and-special-diets.aspx>
- Just to remind you, if you pay for your child's school lunches these should be paid in **advance** of the meal being taken where possible. Thank you.
- A reminder that breakfast club is now free to all children. Bookings are essential so we can ensure correct staff levels and breakfast supplies.
- The school provides all the equipment that children need for lessons and break times so they should not bring their own possessions to school. This includes pencil cases, stationary, games, playing cards or toys. This is to avoid the risk of potential upset caused if items are lost or broken and also ensures all children have access to the same resources. If parents feel that exceptions to this rule should be made for emotional or educational reasons then this should be agreed with the class teacher before items are brought in to school.
- Children are encouraged to bring a drinks bottle to school containing water. They are also allowed to bring a healthy snack for morning break. This should be either fruit or a plain biscuit. Fruit is provided for children in Class 1. Please do not send snacks that contain chocolate or have a high sugar content as these can make it difficult for children to concentrate in lessons.

FURTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
24/10/2025	Last day of term
06/11/2025	PTA film club
09/11/2025	Remembrance service
11/11/2025	Scholastic book fair
11/11/2025	Flu vaccination programme
20/11/2025	Manchester museum trip
04/12/2025	PTA Christmas film club
05/12/2025	PTA non uniform day
09/12/2025	Class 1 Nativity
11/12/2025	Whole school pantomime trip
12/12/2025	Christmas jumper and craft day
16/12/2025	PTA Christmas bingo
16/12/2025	Churchtown Tots Christmas party
17/12/2025	Class Christmas parties
18/12/2025	Christmas dinner day
18/12/2025	Christmas church service
19/12/2025	Last day of term
24/11/2025	Inset- School closed
23/02/2025	Inset- School closed
01/06/2025	Inset- School closed

In September 2013 the government introduced new regulations making it clear that Headteachers must not give approval for any leave of absence during term time, including holidays, unless there are exceptional circumstances. Parents are not entitled to take their children on holiday in term time. Planned absence can only be taken with the prior written approval of the headteacher. Each case will be considered on its own merits and the decision of the headteacher is final.

Any requests for term time leave should be made on a leave of absence request form available from the school office and handed in at least two school weeks before the first date of the requested absence whenever possible. You must have received written authorisation before your child can be absent from school.

If a request for leave is denied and the pupil is absent for 5 days or more then the school is expected to refer the case to the local authority. Parent/carers may be issued with a penalty notice fine or prosecution should leave of 5 days or more be taken which is not authorised by the Headteacher, or where repeated incidents of leave in term time for less than 5 days occur or where the unauthorised absence contributes to wider poor attendance that meets the legal threshold. If unpaid this could lead to prosecution under section 444(1) of The Education Act 1996

Absence deemed for the reason of unauthorised leave in term time will be marked in the register with the Attendance code G.

Further information regarding school attendance and penalty notices can be found on the DCC website <https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/schools/welfare-services/attendance/school-attendance.aspx>

Please see our Attendance policy on our school website for more details.



Come and join us for our Harvest Festival

at St Helen's Church 11.00am on Sunday 12th October

We will be thanking God for the abundance He provides and remembering all those who don't have enough food and those who face famine.



Tea, coffee or squash and biscuits will be served from 10.40am. before the service. Our Harvest Lunch is after the service (please let us know if you would like to come to the lunch.)

The service will last approximately 45 minutes and be full of singing, activities, and worship.



There are activities for children during the service and a play area for preschool children.



We are once again supporting the **Jigsaw Food Bank**. There is no collection during the service but there will be an opportunity to bring donations of food or money to support this cause should you be able to and wish to do so. The list of items **Jigsaw** currently need are as below.



Jigsaw currently need Tinned Soup, Tinned Meat (Hot Dogs, Meatballs, Luncheon Meat, Corned Beef, Stewing Steak, Curry Etc), UHT Milk, Jars of Pasta Sauce, Hot Chocolate, Cup A Soup, Strawberry Jam, Chocolate Spread, Orange Marmalade, Peanut Butter, Rice (Microwave Packs), Pot Noodles / Super Noodles, Nappies (Sizes 4/5/6), Deodorant, Cat Food (Wet Pouches and Dry Food), Tinned Potatoes, Tinned Sweetcorn, Toilet Rolls, Shampoo/Conditioner (Women's), Toilet Cleaner, Washing Up Liquid, Anti-Bac Cleaning Spray, Laundry Liquid, Washing Powder and J Cloths. They don't need any more Baked Beans, Tuna, Tinned Fish.





Aim high and believe, grow and succeed

With God all things are possible

Matthew 19:26

DARLEY CHURCHTOWN CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

AUTUMN OPEN MORNINGS

**FRIDAY 10TH OCTOBER AND 24TH OCTOBER
FROM 9.30 ONWARDS**

Our open mornings are an opportunity to tour the school and meet with staff. Although these are mainly aimed at the September 2026 reception intake, all interested parents and carers are welcome. If these times are not convenient please contact the school office on 01629 732236 or email info@darleychurchtown.derbyshire.sch.uk to arrange an alternative. More dates will also be available in November.



Spring & Summer Menu

Available Daily:
Bread, Salad,
Fresh Fruit,
Yoghurt &
Drinking Water

Allergen Key

Celery	C	Molluscs	Mo
Cereals	G	Mustard	Mu
Crustaceans	Cr	Nuts	N
Eggs	E	Peanuts	P
Fish	F	Sesame Seeds	Se
Lupin	L	Soya	So
Milk	M	Sulphur Dioxide	Su

Week 1

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
The Main Event	"Meal designed by pupils at Staveley Junior School" Crispy Beef Tacos with Sunshine Rice	V Creamy Tomato Lasagne G/M/Mu/So with Garlic Bread G & Side Salad	Roast of the Day with Stuffing G Mashed Potatoes M Seasonal Veg. & Gravy	Big Breakfast Sausage G/So/Su, Bacon, Hash Browns, Baked Beans & Tomatoes	Fish Fingers F/G with Chips, Carrots & Sweetcorn
Daily Choice	Pasta Pot, Filled Jacket Potato or a Sandwich meal - Please speak with your school for their selection				
Dessert	Chewy Cherry Cookie E/G 	Ice Cream M with Fruit 	Flapjack G with Fruit 	Jaffa Chee Pot M 	Strawberry Marbled Muffin E/G/M

Weeks Starting: 21.04.25 / 12.05.25 / 09.06.25 / 30.06.25 / 21.07.25 / 15.09.25 / 06.10.25

Week 2

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
The Main Event	Golden Pastry Topped Pie E/G/M with New Potatoes, Seasonal Veg. & Gravy	V Cheese & Tomato Pizza G/M with Potato Wedges & Side Salad	Pork Sausages G/So/Su with Mashed Potatoes M Seasonal Veg. Yorkshire Pudding E/G/M & Gravy	BBQ Chicken Fajita Wrap G with Sweetcorn Salsa, Oven Baked Potatoes & Seasonal Veg. 	Fish Stars F/G with Chips, Baked Beans & Peas
Daily Choice	Pasta Pot, Filled Jacket Potato or a Sandwich meal - Please speak with your school for their selection				
Dessert	Oaty Cookie Su/G	Chocolate Pear Slice E/G 	Sprinkle Cake E/G	Strawberry Whip M 	Scrumble G with Fruit & Ice Cream M

Weeks Starting: 28.04.25 / 19.05.25 / 16.06.25 / 07.07.25 / 01.09.25 / 22.09.25 / 13.10.25

Week 3

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
The Main Event	Cheese & Bean Enchilada G/M with Mexican Rice & Salad 	Beef Burger G in a Bun G with Diced Potatoes, Salad & Rainbow Slaw E/Mu	Roast of the Day with Stuffing G Mashed Potatoes M Seasonal Veg. & Gravy	Chicken Curry M served with Rice & Homemade Flatbread G/So 	Fish Fingers F/G with Chips, Carrots & Sweetcorn
Daily Choice	Pasta Pot, Filled Jacket Potato or a Sandwich meal - Please speak with your school for their selection				
Dessert	Chocolate Orange Cookie G	Lemon Muffin E/G	Chocolate Cracknel M/G & Fruit 	Jelly & Fruit 	Pancakes E/G/M with Fruit Coulis

Weeks Starting: 05.05.25 / 02.06.25 / 23.06.25 / 14.07.25 / 08.09.25 / 29.09.25 / 20.10.25





Autumn & Winter Menu

Available Daily:
Bread, Salad,
Fruit, Yoghurt
& Drinking
Water

CELEBRATING
120 YEARS
OF SCHOOL
MEALS

Week 1

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
03.11.25	The Main Event Beef Bolognese with Pasta & Seasonal Vegetables	Crispy Chicken or Quorn Burger V in a Bun with Potato Wedges & Seasonal Vegetables	Pork or Vegetarian V Toad in the Hole with Mashed Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables & Gravy	Sweet & Sour Quorn Dippers Ve with Mixed Rice & Seasonal Vegetables	Golden Crumbed Fish Fingers with Chips, Baked Beans & Peas
24.11.25	Alternative Choice Margherita Pizza V & Seasonal Vegetables	Pasta with a Creamy Tomato Sauce V & Seasonal Vegetables	Creamy Cauliflower Bake V with Mashed Potatoes & Seasonal Vegetables	Vegetarian Mince Layered Tortilla Stack V with Mixed Rice & Seasonal Vegetables	Vegetable Fingers Ve with Chips, Baked Beans & Peas
15.12.25					
19.01.26					
09.02.26	Daily Choice	Pasta Pot, Filled Jacket Potato or a Sandwich meal. - Please speak with your school for their selection.			
09.03.26	Dessert NEW Gingerbread Cookie	Chocolate Orange Muffin	NEW Bitesize Cornflake Bar with Fruit	NEW Lemon Sponge Tart	NEW Autumn Fruit Crumble with Custard

Week 2

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10.11.25	NEW The Main Event Chicken Goujons with Homemade BBQ Sauce, Mixed Rice & Seasonal Vegetables	Margherita Pizza V with Seasonal Vegetables	Yorkshire Pudding with Beef Hot Pot / Roast Pork / Quorn Fillet V with Potatoes & Seasonal Vegetables	Big Breakfast with Sausage & Bacon or Vegan Breakfast Ve, Hash Browns, Baked Beans & Tomatoes	NEW Harry Ramsden's Battered Fish Fillet with Chips & Seasonal Vegetables
01.12.25	Alternative Choice Five Bean Chilli Taco Ve with Mixed Rice & Seasonal Vegetables	Veggie Bolognese Ve with Pasta, Seasonal Vegetables & Garlic Dough Balls	Cheese & Tomato Puff Pastry Swirl V with Seasonal Vegetables	Jacket Potato with Cook's Choice of Filling V & Seasonal Vegetables	Creamy Cheesy Pasta Bake V with Crusty Bread & Seasonal Vegetables
05.01.26					
26.01.26					
23.02.26	Daily Choice	Pasta Pot, Filled Jacket Potato or a Sandwich meal. - Please speak with your school for their selection.			
16.03.26	Dessert Vanilla Shortbread Slice	Chocolate Cracknel	NEW Bitesize Sprinkle Cake with Fruit	Jelly & Fruit	NEW Jam Roly Poly & Custard

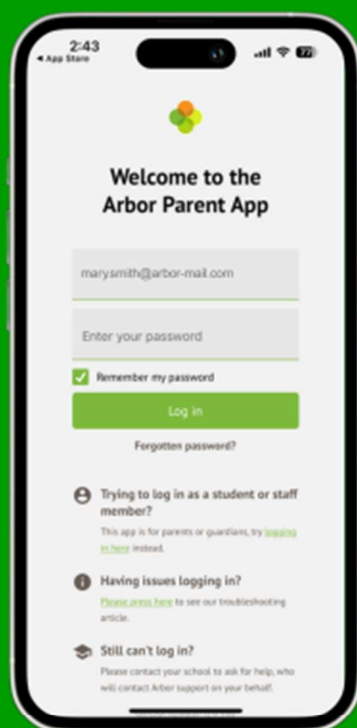
Week 3

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
17.11.25	The Main Event Vegetarian Sausage Roll Ve, with Baked Beans, Herby Potatoes & Seasonal Vegetables	Pork or Vegan Meatball Sub Ve with a side of Pasta & Seasonal Vegetables	Roast of the Day or Quorn Fillet Ve with Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables & Gravy	Chicken or Vegetable V Curry with Mixed Rice, Seasonal Vegetables & Flatbread	Golden Crumbed Fish Fingers with Chips, Peas & Sweetcorn
08.12.25	Alternative Choice Pasta with Homemade Tomato Sauce Ve & Seasonal Vegetables	Jacket Potato with Filling V & Seasonal Vegetables	Old School Cheesy Potato & Bean Pie V with Seasonal Vegetables	Mac & Cheese V with Seasonal Vegetables & Flatbread	Pizza Panini V with Chips, Peas & Sweetcorn
12.01.26					
02.02.26					
02.03.26	Daily Choice	Pasta Pot, Filled Jacket Potato or a Sandwich meal. - Please speak with your school for their selection.			
23.03.26	Dessert NEW Toffee Apple Muffin	NEW Bitesize Chocolate Crunch with Fruit	Cook's Choice of Mousse	NEW Carrot Cake Cookie	NEW Saucy Chocolate Pudding



We're using the Arbor Parent App!

See and manage your child's day-to-day school information.
Understand their progress, make payments and bookings,
and receive in-app messages - all from one app



Log in in seconds with Face ID

Receive in-app messages and
reminders on your phone

Make payments, sign up for
clubs, and book parents evenings

See your child's progress,
attendance, behaviour points,
report cards and more

Check your child's calendar,
it's always up-to-date

Scan the QR code to download the Arbor Parent
App, and use your email address to log in



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

DEALING WITH TRAUMATIC & CHALLENGING EVENTS

Children and young people may face a wide range of traumatic or challenging events – from bereavement and illness to bullying, family breakdowns, or witnessing violence. These experiences can affect their mental health, behaviour, relationships, and academic progress. With the right support from trusted adults, children can begin to feel safe, rebuild resilience, and develop healthy coping strategies. This guide offers practical and empathetic ways to provide support and promote positive outcomes.

1 A PREDICTABLE ENVIRONMENT

Children who have experienced trauma often feel unsafe or uncertain. Creating routines, setting clear expectations, and maintaining consistency can help restore a sense of security. This structure offers reassurance and helps children feel more in control of their surroundings.

2 USE LANGUAGE THAT MATCHES THEIR AGE

Speak clearly and sensitively, choosing words that are appropriate for the child's age. Avoid overwhelming them with too much information at once. Offer gentle, honest explanations and focus on reassurance, especially when talking about difficult or sensitive subjects.

3 TRAUMA AND THE BODY

Mention briefly that trauma can show up in physical ways, such as changes in sleep, appetite, concentration, or as physical aches and pains. Consider this before labelling behaviour as 'difficult' or 'lazy'. Some children may become withdrawn, while others may be more outwardly challenging. Highlight that there's no 'one way' children respond.

4 AVOID RETELLING OR RELIVING TRAUMA

Children sometimes get asked to explain or repeat their experience multiple times. Striking a balance of when to listen and when to gently redirect can help to avoid unnecessary re-traumatisation. Acknowledge, but don't probe for detail unless safeguarding procedures require it.

5 AVOID DISMISSING OR MINIMISING FEELINGS

Seemingly well-meaning comments like 'It's not that bad' or 'You're okay' may shut down children's emotional expression and are often not helpful. Instead, acknowledge what they're feeling, even if it seems small. Validating a child's emotions helps them feel seen and encourages open communication in future.

6 UNDERSTAND HOW THEY'RE FEELING

Many children don't have the words to express their emotions, especially during distress. Supporting them to name what they're feeling – such as angry, scared or sad – builds emotional literacy. Tools like emotion charts, drawing, or storytelling can help externalise feelings in a safe, manageable way.

7 BE AWARE OF YOUR OWN RESPONSES

Children pick up on adult emotions and reactions, often mimicking them. Staying calm, even in challenging situations, helps children feel more secure. Practising your own self-regulation is an important way to model healthy stress management and encourages children to do the same.

8 SEEK PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT

While many children benefit from everyday emotional support, some will need more specialised help. If symptoms persist, worsen, or disrupt their daily life, consult with school safeguarding leads, a GP, or a mental health professional. Early intervention can prevent long-term difficulties and support healthy recovery.

9 MAINTAIN CONNECTION

Isolation can worsen the impact of trauma. Encourage involvement in group activities, praise their efforts, and ensure they feel like a valued part of the school or family community. Meaningful connection with trusted adults and peers builds resilience and a sense of belonging.

10 BE PATIENT – HEALING TAKES TIME

There's no quick fix for emotional recovery. Children may have good days and setbacks, and progress may not always be visible or linear. Your ongoing support, patience, and presence can help them move forward at their own pace, knowing they are not alone.

Meet Our Expert

This guide has been written by Anna Saleman. Anna is passionate about placing prevention at the heart of every school by integrating mental wellbeing within the curriculum, school culture, and systems. She has been a member of the advisory group for the Department for Education, advising them on their mental health green paper.



The National College

X @wake_up_weds

f /www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 08.10.2025

Applying for your child's secondary school place 2026-27 – a summary

You must apply by 31 October for a place at secondary school.

If your child lives in Derbyshire and was born between 1 September 2014 and 31 August 2015 you need to apply to Derbyshire County Council for a secondary school place for them.

The closing date for applications is midnight on Friday 31 October 2025. Please note that all applications made on time receive equal consideration. Applying after the deadline may reduce your chances of getting a place at your preferred school – particularly if it is popular.

This leaflet will help you apply for your child's place but it is only a summary. Full information is available in 'How to apply for a place at secondary school – a guide for parents

2026/2027'. You can read the guide for parents at www.derbyshire.gov.uk/admissions.

If you want your own copy email admissions.transport@derbyshire.gov.uk or ring 01629 537479.

If your child has an Education, Health & Care Plan (EHCP) your child's school place will be arranged by the local authority's SEND Assessment Service (SENDAS). For queries please speak to your SENDCO in school or visit the Derbyshire Local Offer at www.localoffer.derbyshire.gov.uk and search for admissions.

